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ASCS BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture

BI No. 10

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RESULTS OF MARKETING QUOTA REFERENDUMS

Since the beginning of production adjustment programs in the 1930's the referendum method has been used to obtain -- direct from individual producers -- an expression of their desire for or against the initiation or continuation or an adjustment measure.

The first actual referendum was held in 1934, on the question of a corn-hog adjustment program in 1935. More than half a million signers of the 1934 contract voted in this referendum, and more than two-thirds of the number voting favored the adoption of the new program. On this mandate, the detailed program was formulated and the contracts offered to producers.

Referendums similar to the corn-hog vote also were used early in production adjustment history among cotton and tobacco growers to determine whether the Bankhead and Kerr-Smith Acts should be continued in effect in the 1935 season.

When the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 was enacted, referendums were directed in connection with marketing quotas for the six so-called "basic" crops -- wheat, cotton, rice, peanuts, corn and tobacco. The quotas are for use under conditions of heavy supply; they provide a method of allocating the available market among the farms growing the crop; they are made effective through farm acreage allotments, and monetary penalties, when applicable, on production or marketings from excess acreage if the acreage exceeds the farm allotment.

With a few exceptions, the marketing quota programs provided in 1938 -- and the referendums which approve their use -- are still current. However, quotas were never in effect for corn, and the quota authority for this crop was repealed in 1954 (corn allotments were ended with the 1958 crop). Special legislation exempts wheat and upland cotton from marketing quotas through the 1977 crop.

No marketing quota program can be put into effect without the approval of at least two-thirds of the producers voting in a national referendum. When quotas are approved by growers voting in a referendum, the quotas apply to all producers of the crop. A special marketing quota program for flue-cured tobacco provides poundage quotas as well as acreage allotments when approved by more than two-thirds of the farmers voting in a referendum. A poundage program is in effect for burley tobacco.

The following tables list results of referendums held on marketing quotas for the basic crops as provided by the Act of 1938 and its later amendments.

COTTON, UPLAND

Crop	: Date of : Referendum	:	Votes			: Percent : Yes
			Total	: Yes	: No	
1938	Mar. 1938		1,527,028	1,406,088	120,940	92.1
1939	Dec. 1938		1,169,663	983,903	185,760	84.1
1940	Dec. 1939		962,273	877,297	84,976	91.2
1941	Dec. 1940		918,857	848,428	70,429	92.3
1942	Dec. 1941		840,881	789,662	52,219	93.9
1943 <u>1/</u>	Dec. 1942		762,856	657,452	105,404	86.2
1950	Dec. 1949		644,135	575,963	68,172	89.4
1954	Dec. 1953		487,453	458,382	29,071	94.0
1955	Dec. 1954		346,542	318,949	27,593	92.0
1956	Dec. 1955		292,488	271,887	20,601	93.0
1957	Dec. 1956		231,678	214,003	17,675	92.4
1958	Dec. 1957		229,315	213,046	16,269	92.9
1959	Dec. 1958		274,943	253,590	21,353	92.2
1960	Dec. 1959		188,349	179,259	9,090	95.2
1961	Dec. 1960		193,456	186,935	6,521	96.6
1962	Dec. 1961		280,499	271,824	8,675	96.9
1963	Dec. 1962		217,020	203,310	13,710	93.7
1964	Dec. 1963		234,682	220,701	13,981	94.0
1965	Dec. 1964		305,452	293,865	11,587	96.2
1966	Nov. 1965		211,810	200,810	11,000	94.8
1967	Dec. 1966		301,442	276,205	25,237	91.6
1968	Dec. 1967		276,336	263,405	12,931	95.3
1969	Dec. 1968		288,165	276,122	12,043	95.8
1970	Dec. 1969		266,895	256,521	10,374	96.1
1971-73 <u>2/</u>						
1974-77 <u>3/</u>						

1/ Suspended

2/ Agricultural Act of 1970

3/ Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973

COTTON, EXTRA LONG STAPLE

Crop	:	Date of Referendum	:	Votes			:	Percent Yes
				Total	:	Yes	:	No
1954		Dec. 1953		1,643		1,467		176
1955		Dec. 1954		1,193		1,107		86
1956		Dec. 1955		1,115		1,005		110
1957		Dec. 1956		888		839		49
1958		Dec. 1957		1,246		1,097		149
1959		Dec. 1958		1,180		1,044		136
1960		Dec. 1959		861		732		129
1961		Dec. 1960		1,016		914		102
1962		Dec. 1961		1,175		1,042		133
1963		Dec. 1962		1,129		925		204
1964		Dec. 1963		1,237		919		318
1965		Dec. 1964		953		764		189
1966		Nov. 1965		1,173		930		243
1967		Dec. 1966		2,813		2,205		608
1968		Dec. 1967		2,186		1,912		274
1969		Dec. 1968		2,416		2,183		233
1970		Dec. 1969		2,165		2,036		129
1971		Dec. 1970		2,013		1,900		113
1972		Dec. 1971		1,956		1,853		103
1973		Dec. 1972		2,039		1,899		140
1974		Dec. 1973		1,596		1,402		194
1976		Dec. 1975		1,070		966		104
1977		Dec. 1976		987		841		146

RICE

Crop	:	Date of Referendum	:	Votes		:	Percent Yes
				Total	Yes	No	
1939		Dec. 1938		7,890	3,806	4,084	48.2
1955		Jan. 1955		17,647	15,911	1,736	90.2
1956		Jan. 1956		10,645	9,008	1,637	84.6
1957		Dec. 1956		6,984	6,384	600	91.4
1958		Dec. 1957		6,827	6,207	620	90.9
1959		Dec. 1958		7,570	6,577	993	86.9
1960		Dec. 1959		6,168	5,584	584	90.5
1961		Dec. 1960		6,088	5,553	535	91.2
1962		Jan. 1962		8,973	8,455	518	94.2
1963		Jan. 1963		9,990	8,774	1,216	87.8
1964		Dec. 1963		8,307	7,464	843	89.9
1965		Jan. 1965		7,626	6,932	694	90.9
1966		Nov. 1965		6,496	5,971	525	91.9
1967		Jan. 1967		11,661	10,257	1,404	88.0
1968		Jan. 1968		12,915	12,345	570	95.6
1969		Jan. 1969		11,545	10,778	767	93.4
1970		Jan. 1970		13,964	12,629	1,335	90.4
1971		Jan. 1971		11,874	11,138	736	93.8
1972		Jan. 1972		11,659	11,019	640	94.5
1973		Jan. 1973		11,422	10,768	654	94.3
1974		<u>1/</u>					
1975		<u>1/</u>					
1976		<u>2/</u>					
1977		<u>2/</u>					

1/ Marketing quotas not in effect

2/ Suspended

WHEAT

Crop	Date of Referendum	Votes			Percent
		Total	Yes	No	Yes
1941 <u>1/</u>	May 1941	559,630	453,569	106,061	81.0
1942 <u>1/</u>	May 1942	392,111	323,030	69,081	82.4
1943 <u>1/</u>			NO VOTE		
1954	Aug. 1953	447,757	390,221	57,536	87.2
1955	July 1954	284,646	208,623	76,023	73.3
1956	June 1955	347,652	268,817	78,835	77.3
1957	July 1956	280,466	245,081	35,385	87.4
1958	June 1957	235,039	202,668	32,371	86.2
1959	June 1958	230,300	193,583	36,717	84.1
1960	July 1959	210,187	169,760	40,427	80.8
1961	July 1960	178,718	156,134	22,584	87.4
1962	Aug. 1961	278,515	221,250	57,265	79.4
1963	Aug. 1962	247,508	169,348	78,160	68.4
1964	May 1963	1,222,856	584,284	638,572	47.8

1/ Suspended

PEANUTS

Crop	:	Date of Referendum	:	Votes			:	Percent Yes
				Total	:	Yes	:	No
1941) 1942) <u>1/</u> 1943)		Apr. 1941		73,850		64,462		9,388
								87.3
<u>1/</u> 1948) 1949) 1950)		Dec. 1947		105,089		92,136		12,953
								87.7
1951) 1952) 1953)		Dec. 1950		68,910		48,790		20,120
								70.8
1954) 1955) 1956)		Dec. 1953		66,433		62,637		3,796
								94.3
1957) 1958) 1959)		Dec. 1956		39,138		36,596		2,542
								93.5
1960) 1961) 1962)		Dec. 1959		33,598		31,875		1,723
								94.9
1963) 1964) 1965)		Dec. 1962		42,838		41,508		1,330
								96.9
1966) 1967) 1968)		Nov. 1965		36,413		35,516		897
								97.5
1969) 1970) 1971)		Dec. 1968		50,358		48,808		1,550
								96.0
1972) 1973) 1974)		Dec. 1971		43,641		42,503		1,138
								97.4
1975) 1976) 1977)		Dec. 1974		43,611		42,317		1,294
								97.0

1/ Suspended

TOBACCO

Type	:	Crop	:	Date of referendum	:	Total votes cast	Percent of votes cast		
							For three years	For one year	Against quotas
Flue- cured		1938		Mar. 12, 1938		255,095	--	86.2	13.8
		1939		Dec. 10, 1938		233,393	--	56.8	43.2
		1940		Oct. 5, 1939		250,671	--	90.0	10.0
		1941, 1942, 1943		July 20, 1940		203,059	86.1	1.8	12.1
		1944, 1945, 1946		July 24, 1943		143,510	87.6	3.1	9.3
		1947, 1948, 1949		July 12, 1946		256,735	97.1	1.2	1.7
		1950, 1951, 1952		July 23, 1949		230,719	97.7	0.9	1.4
		1953, 1954, 1955		July 19, 1952		260,163	97.8	1.0	1.2
		1956, 1957, 1958		July 23, 1955		200,444	95.5	1.8	2.7
		1959, 1960, 1961		Dec. 15, 1958		176,607	95.4		4.6
		1962, 1963, 1964		Dec. 12, 1961		194,121	98.1		1.9
		1965, 1966, 1967		Dec. 15, 1964		356,951	96.5		3.5
		1965, 1966, 1967 <u>1/</u>		May 4, 1965		229,880	73.6		26.4
		1968, 1969, 1970 <u>1/</u>		July 18, 1967		162,314	96.5		3.5
		1971, 1972, 1973		July 16, 1970		129,961	98.4		1.6
		1974, 1975, 1976		July 17, 1973		100,466	98.5		1.5
		1977, 1978, 1979		Dec. 16, 1976		139,982	98.6		1.4
Burley		1938		Apr. 9, 1938		177,078	--	87.1	12.9
		1939		Dec. 17, 1938		217,339	--	59.4	40.6
		1940		Nov. 21, 1939		118,527	--	83.3	16.7
		1941, 1942, 1943		Nov. 23, 1940		145,089	76.5	3.1	20.4
		1944, 1945, 1946		Oct. 23, 1943		123,559	92.8	2.1	5.1
		1947, 1948, 1949		Oct. 25, 1946		135,326	95.9	1.7	2.4
		1950, 1951, 1952		Nov. 26, 1949		155,483	92.3	3.5	4.2
		1953, 1954, 1955		Nov. 22, 1952		179,493	97.0	1.3	1.7
		1955 Redetermination		Apr. 28, 1955		340,822	<u>2/</u> 96.0		<u>2/</u> 4.0
		1956, 1957, 1958		Dec. 29, 1955		194,415	95.3		4.7
		1959, 1960, 1961		Feb. 24, 1959		190,453	98.7		1.3
		1962, 1963, 1964		Feb. 20, 1962		176,926	99.2		.8
		1965, 1966, 1967		Feb. 25, 1965		361,167	99.0		1.0
		1966, 1967, 1968 <u>1/</u>		Mar. 10, 1966		285,211	57.0		43.0
		1967, 1968, 1969 <u>1/</u>		Feb. 27-Mar. 3, 1967		341,539	58.8		41.2
		1968, 1969, 1970		Feb. 26-Mar. 1, 1968		299,696	97.0		3.0
		1971, 1972, 1973		May 4, 1971		328,608	96.6		3.4
		1974, 1975, 1976		Feb. 25-Mar. 1, 1974		287,829	93.8		1.7
		1977, 1978, 1979		Feb. 22-25, 1977		244,816	99.0		1.0

(continued)

TOBACCO (continued)

Type	Crop	Date of referendum	Total votes cast	Percent of votes cast	For three years	For one year	Against quotas
Fire-cured 1938		Mar. 12, 1938	48,788	--	80.6		19.4
and dark 1939		Dec. 7, 1938	43,736	--	60.4		39.6
air-cured <u>3/</u>							
Fire-cured 1941,1942,1943 <u>4/</u>		Nov. 23, 1940	23,296	86.3	2.1		11.6
1946 <u>5/</u> ,1947,1948		Oct. 20, 1945	13,557	90.8	2.8		6.4
1949,1950,1951		Nov. 27, 1948	21,140	94.7	2.5		2.8
1952,1953,1954		Dec. 7, 1951	13,350	96.5	1.8		1.7
1955,1956,1957		Dec. 14, 1954	11,919	95.6	1.8		2.6
1958,1959,1960		Feb. 18, 1958	8,821	96.0			4.0
1961,1962,1963		Feb. 24, 1961	11,319	98.0			2.0
1964,1965,1966		Feb. 28, 1964	11,978	94.7			5.3
1967,1968,1969		Feb.13-17,1967	13,783	93.5			6.5
1970,1971,1972		Feb. 16-20, 1970	12,767	93.8			6.2
1973,1974,1975		Feb. 19-23, 1973	10,504	93.2			6.8
1976,1977,1978		Feb. 19-23, 1976	10,494	94.2			5.8
Dark 1941,1942,1943 <u>4/</u>		Nov. 23, 1940	10,578	84.2	2.2		13.6
air-cured 1946 <u>5/</u> ,1947,1948		Oct. 20, 1945	18,167	96.1	1.5		2.4
1949,1950,1951		Nov. 27, 1948	17,717	96.1	1.5		2.4
1952,1953,1954		Dec. 7, 1951	11,430	97.4	1.5		1.1
1955,1956,1957		Dec. 14, 1954	9,538	95.9	1.2		2.9
1958,1959,1960		Feb. 18, 1958	8,381	96.6			3.4
1961,1962,1963		Feb. 24, 1961	9,082	98.7			1.3
1964,1965,1966		Feb. 28, 1964	9,113	97.8			2.2
1967,1968,1969		Feb.13-17,1967	13,695	93.0			7.0
1970,1971,1972		Feb. 16-20, 1970	12,234	93.2			6.8
1973,1974,1975		Feb. 19-23, 1973	10,901	93.7			6.3
1976,1977,1978		Feb. 19-23, 1976	11,199	94.8			5.2

(continued)

TOBACCO (continued)

Type	Crop	Date of referendum	Total votes cast	Percent of votes cast		
				For three years	For one year	Against quotas
Virginia sun-cured	1950, 1951, 1952	Dec. 15, 1949	2,021	85.1	6.4	8.5
	1953, 1954, 1955	Nov. 22, 1952	2,095	97.1	2.0	0.9
	1956, 1957, 1958	Dec. 29, 1955	1,577	98.0		2.0
	1959, 1960, 1961	Feb. 24, 1959	1,128	97.9		2.1
	1962, 1963, 1964	Feb. 20, 1962	1,431	98.5		1.5
	1965, 1966, 1967	Feb. 25, 1965	1,169	97.5		2.5
	1968, 1969, 1970	Feb. 26-Mar. 1, 1968	786	93.4		6.6
	1971, 1972, 1973	Feb. 22-26, 1971	665	94.6		5.4
	1974, 1975, 1976	Feb. 25-Mar. 1, 1974	471	93.8		6.2
	1977, 1978, 1979	Feb. 22-25, 1977	403	95.8		4.2
Maryland	1951, 1952, 1953	Dec. 20, 1950	6,273	18.1	19.1	62.8
	1952, 1953, 1954	Dec. 7, 1951	5,258	15.5	13.1	71.4
	1953, 1954, 1955	Oct. 29, 1952	6,383	64.5	9.6	25.9
	1954, 1955, 1956	Oct. 29, 1953	5,171	51.3	12.8	35.9
	1955, 1956, 1957	Dec. 17, 1954	5,555	43.7	7.4	48.9
	1956, 1957, 1958	Dec. 29, 1955	7,543	81.0		19.0
	1959, 1960, 1961	Feb. 24, 1959	5,021	64.2		35.8
	1960, 1961, 1962	Feb. 2, 1959	5,958	77.8		22.2
	1963, 1964, 1965	Feb. 14, 1963	4,441	83.8		16.2
	1966, 1967, 1968	Feb. 25, 1966	4,030	41.5		58.5
	1967, 1968, 1969	Feb. 20-24, 1967	6,375	61.0		39.0
	1968, 1969, 1970	Feb. 19-23, 1968	5,882	56.0		44.0
	1971, 1972, 1973	Feb. 22-26, 1971	3,976	18.8		81.2
	1974, 1975, 1976	Feb. 25-Mar. 1, 1974	5,442	25.5		74.5
	1977, 1978, 1979	Feb. 22-25, 1977	1,718	9.6		90.4
Cigar filler (41)	1951, 1952, 1953	Dec. 20, 1950	3,348	11.8	9.8	78.4
	1952, 1953, 1954	Dec. 7, 1951	2,648	21.4	12.1	66.5
	1953, 1954, 1955	Oct. 29, 1952	1,670	26.3	12.1	61.6
	1954, 1955, 1956	Oct. 29, 1953	1,479	17.4	7.0	75.6
	1955, 1956, 1957	Dec. 17, 1954	1,893	8.4	3.8	87.7
	1956, 1957, 1958	Dec. 29, 1955	1,887	11.3		88.7
	1959, 1960, 1961	Feb. 24, 1959	2,382	7.9		92.1
	1962, 1963, 1964	Feb. 20, 1962	4,275	13.8		86.2
	1965, 1966, 1967	Feb. 18, 1965	3,206	11.8		88.2
	1968, 1969, 1970	Feb. 19-23, 1968	2,034	19.0		81.0
	1971, 1972, 1973	Feb. 22-26, 1971	1,412	22.7		77.3
	1974, 1975, 1976	Feb. 25-Mar. 1, 1974	890	14.8		85.2
	1977, 1978, 1979	Feb. 22-25, 1977	798	13.0		87.0

(continued)

TOBACCO (continued)

Type	:	Crop	:	Date of referendum	:	Total votes cast	Percent of votes cast		
							For three years	For one year	Against quotas
Cigar	:	1951,1952,1953	:	Dec. 20, 1950	:	5,564	43.8	23.0	33.2
filler and	:	1952,1953,1954	:	Dec. 7, 1951	:	4,213	42.4	23.3	34.3
binder	:	1953,1954,1955	:	Oct. 29, 1952	:	4,854	61.7	13.2	25.1
(42-55)	:	1954,1955,1956	:	Oct. 29, 1953	:	3,896	77.0	12.6	10.4
(42-44,	:	1957,1958,1959	:	Feb. 13, 1957	:	3,944	94.0		5.9
53-55)	:	1960,1961,1962	:	Feb. 11, 1960	:	3,805	95.4		4.6
	:	1963,1964,1965	:	Feb. 26, 1963	:	3,401	89.6		10.4
	:	1966,1967,1968	:	Feb. 10, 1966	:	3,659	91.3		8.7
	:	1969,1970,1971	:	Feb. 24-27, 1969	:	4,813	84.6		15.4
	:	1972,1973,1974	:	Jan. 10-14, 1972	:	3,629	91.2		8.8
	:	1975,1976,1977	:	Feb. 24-28,1975	:	3,526	86.6		13.4
(51-52)	:	1957,1958,1959	:	Feb. 13, 1957	:	1,862	98.0		2.0
	:	1960,1961,1962	:	Feb. 11, 1960	:	797	89.7		10.3
	:	1963,1964,1965	:	Feb. 26, 1963	:	349	96.0		4.0
	:	1966,1967,1968	:	Feb. 10, 1966	:	354	96.6		3.4
	:	1969,1970,1971 6/	:	Feb. 24-27, 1969	:	462	92.0		8.0
	:	1972,1973,1974 6/	:	Jan. 10-14, 1972	:	282	92.2		7.8
	:	1975,1976,1977 —	:	Feb. 24-28, 1975	:	199	92.0		8.0

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1/ Vote on alternative acreage-poundage quotas.

2/ Votes for and against redetermination of 1955 quota in referendum held under 69 Stat. 23.

3/ Referendum for both kinds combined.

4/ Quotas on 1943 crop terminated August 14, 1943.

5/ Quotas not in effect in 1944 and 1945.

6/ Marketing quotas terminated for the 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, and 1976 crops.

